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Congresswoman Lauren Boebert  
1713 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

20th of March, 2023

Dear Ms. Boebert,

My name is Kathi Shoemaker and my husband and I own cattle and horses in Jackson County, Colorado. We are a small business that has had one calf attacked by the wolves that caused severe internal injuries. It resulted in its death, despite our best efforts. I know from now on we will need to be super vigilant to try to keep the wolves away as we are going into the calving season and foaling season.

The day before our calf was attacked, I had driven out to check the cows and found a young 4 year old cow dead in the pasture. We are not sure exactly why the cow died, but buried the body to minimize the chance of conflict. While out with her, the rest of the herd came running at me, scared and stressed. I drove around by the pond in the pasture and spotted six wolves. One big gray wolf and five smaller black wolves. I drove at them honking the horn in an attempt to scare them off and the large gray wolf took off. Two of the smaller black wolves trotted off a little ways away and proceeded to stop and watch me. The other three black wolves looped over the hill and when they were out of sight, the two that were standing guard then took off. We went back out after dark and drove around trying to dissuade them from coming back, but the next day one of our calves was found severely wounded. He was doctored when we found him, but passed away shortly after. Our son runs some of his cattle with ours and one of their calves was also found at the same time severely injured.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife was contacted and came out to do a necropsy. They found bruising and teeth marks in the tissue. I was shocked at the amount of damage found through the process. It was determined to be a wolf attack. No other animals could cause such damage.

The solutions we were given by Colorado Parks and Wildlife were either proven to be ineffective or out of the budget for small ranchers like ourselves. Many of the surrounding ranches have attempted all the given forms of hazing, but still are having no luck in keeping the wolves away. We were told we would be given cracker shells, but have yet to see any.

The calves we raise and keep are used to train the colts we raise and start. The colts are trained to sell as rope and ranch horses, but if the wolves are not touchable then we will lose the training tools we need with no way to stop it from happening. I would like to see the 10J Rule go through so we can have the option to protect our herd and livelihood.

Sincerely,



Kathi Shoemaker

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